

# Swedish American Genealogist

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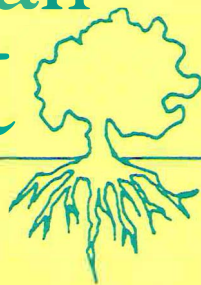
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# Swedish American Genealogist




*A journal devoted to Swedish American  
biography, genealogy and personal history*

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## Salt Lake City Genealogical Tour 24-31 October 1993

The annual Genealogical Study Tour at the Family History Center in Salt Lake City, sponsored by SAG, will take place 24 - 31 October 1993. Space has been reserved at the Howard Johnson Hotel, just around the corner from the Family History Center. This year's tour was a great success and judging by the comments from the participants, many hope to return in 1993. It is not too early to book already now, since space is limited and applications will be honored on a first come, first served basis. Details on cost and program will be ready in early 1993. For further information write SAG at the above address or call (407) 647 4292.

# Gustave Anjou-Forger of American Genealogies

Gordon L. Remington\*

On 2 March 1942 the world was immersed in the darkest days of the Second World War. The Japanese had almost completed their conquest of Burma and Indonesia. Germany, although stalled in the Russian winter, remained unchallenged in the rest of Europe. These were the headlines in the *New York Times*, but on a back page of that issue the obituary of one of America's most notorious genealogical forgers appeared:<sup>1</sup>

## "GUSTAVE ANJOU, 78, GENEALOGIST, DIES

Developed Thriving Business in  
'Mail Order Ancestors' - Is  
Stricken in Staten Island

### TRACED HUMBLE TO GREAT

From \$9,000 for Pedigrees of the Wealthy,  
He Cut Rate to \$250 for Smiths, Etc.

Gustave Anjou, Staten Island genealogist, who developed a profitable business in the sale of mail order ancestors, died yesterday at the Richmond Memorial Hospital, Princess Bay, S.I. after a long illness. He was 78 years old.

Although he was reputed to have taken in a fortune during the boom years of the Twenties through the sale of documents tracing common names of America back to uncommon beginnings in the noble days of the Crusades, Mr. Anjou died in comparative poverty. He leaves no survivors, his wife having died twenty years ago.

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\*Gordon L. Remington's address is P.O.Box 11685, Salt Lake City, UT 84147. Mr. Remington is a professional genealogist and former editor of the *Genealogical Journal*, published by the Utah Genealogical Association. This article appeared in the *Genealogical Journal*, Vol. 19, No.'s 1 and 2, 1991, a special issue devoted to genealogical deception. It is reprinted here with the kind permission of Mr. Remington and the Utah Genealogical Association. The entire issue may be ordered from the UGA by writing to P.O.Box 1144, Salt Lake City, UT 84110. Mr. Remington also acknowledges the assistance of Ruth Ellen Maness and Ulla Britt Morris, Scandinavian reference consultants at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City for their assistance in interpreting Swedish records and handwriting.

Born in Paris, he lived in Sweden as a youth and won a Doctor of Philosophy degree at Upsala (*sic.*!) University. He married a Swedish woman who was a member of a prominent family and came to this country and settled in Staten Island, where he began his researches in genealogy.

For many years he concentrated on tracing lineages of wealthy families in this country and set a price of \$9,000 for a pedigree. His researches, however, uncovered the backgrounds of many humble families and he later issued a catalogue in which he offered to trace a Jones or Smith back to his source for \$250.

Mr. Anjou made sixty trips to Europe and several voyages around the world in pursuit of noble ancestries and was said to have become fluent in twenty-four languages. His researches carried the Woolworth family back to the year 1208 in England and he also discovered that one branch of the Brown family reached back to the time of Henry IV.

Mr. Anjou stored the results of his researches in a one room office in Port Richmond, S.I., from where he mailed typed copies to any one who considered a list of their forebears worth the price. He was a familiar figure on the streets of Port Richmond, with gray hair, a waxed gray mustache with turned up ends, spats and a foreign accent.

In his catalogue he insisted that the results of his researches must be regarded as final and that no guarantees could be given against mistakes."

Fourteen years earlier, on 27 December 1927, a feature article on Anjou's genealogical activities appeared in the *New York Times*, describing in detail the catalogue mentioned in the obituary:<sup>2</sup>

### **"SELLS FAMILY TREES AT A CUT RATE PRICE**

Traffic in Ancestors is Put on a  
Democratic Basis by Staten  
Island Dealer

### **MARKET FOR NOBLES SAGS**

More Sturdy Forebears Now  
the Vogue - \$9,000 Pedigrees  
Knocked Down to \$250

A mail order business in distinguished ancestries, conducted on Staten Island in the name of Gustave Anjou, came to light yesterday as a result of the distribution of twenty-four page catalogues of genealogies at the price of \$250 for a complete set of forefathers running back to the Crusades.

The catalogue offers the public excellent lines of forebears, some traced back a full thousand years until finally lost in the thickening gloom of the Dark Ages. The fee of \$250 includes, it is announced, pen portraits or "small biographies" of each ancestor, as far back as each lineage can be followed into the night of time.

The purpose of establishing the mail order business, according to the catalogue, is to place the distribution of aristocratic pedigrees on a democratic basis. Formerly, according to Mr. Anjou, he sold his exclusive genealogies to the few for sums as high as \$9,000 each, but he had recently decided to release his researches "at a price within the reach of the many."

## **No Guarantee Goes With Them**

"These family records," Mr. Anjou states in the foreword of his catalogue, "have been compiled by and from material gathered by custodians of public and private records during the past thirty-eight years. Many of these records have been destroyed, and while the greatest care has been taken to prevent errors, we give no guarantee, expressed or implied, against mistakes, wrong statements or conclusions. Nor can we engage in controversy or correspondence on the subject."

The home office of the mail order traffic in family trees is a room on the third floor of an office building at 210 Richmond Avenue, Port Richmond, S.I. The head of the pedigree house, Mr. Anjou, is a well-groomed man of 60 years, with gray hair, a waxed gray mustache with turned up ends, spats and a foreign accent. According to other tenants of the same building, the pedigree king seldom makes a personal appearance and orders for ancestors are commonly filled by a young woman who is also irregular in her business hours."

The article goes on at length describing Anjou's genealogies, but one section, the subtitle for which is either tongue-in-cheek or ironically prophetic, is relevant to the purpose of the present article.

## **Forges Convincing Link**

"Arriving by easy stages from fathers to their sons to the period of emigration," continues Mr. Anjou, "the reader will find unquestionable proofs of the connection with the immigrant. Frequently the ship he traveled on is mentioned and the date of its arrival; often his name and age are given in muster-rolls. The records of the birth and baptism are nearly always given, and by process of elimination of all other men of the same baptismal and surname in other localities, the reader can feel convinced of the positive connection between the American immigrant and his forbears."

If an interested party fails to find his own name in the list of genealogies in the catalogue he has no reason to despair, as a footnote says:

"If interested in other families, please give name of immigrant, as we have thousands of documents not listed in the catalogue. We also have many family histories not listed which are selling for \$250 per copy."



The paragraphs quoted above give some idea of the manner in which Gustave Anjou sold his creations. But what of the man, Gustave Anjou? Who was he and why did he engage in such elaborate genealogical fabrications?

There are a few clues in his obituary. He was reported to have been born in Paris, about 1863 or 1864, according to his age at death. He spent some time in Sweden, where he was supposed to have earned his Ph. D. at Uppsala University and where he met his wife. The obituary implies that when he came to America he settled almost immediately in Staten Island.

A clue to his early residence comes from the fact that in 1906 he published his only legitimate work - *Ulster County, N.Y. Probate Records, in the Office of the Surrogate, and in the County Clerk's Office at Kingston, N.Y.: A Careful Abstract and Translation of the Dutch and English Wills, Letters of Administration after Intestates, and Inventories from 1665*, although there were apparently some problems with his editorial notes on the families contained therein.<sup>3</sup> His advertisement of the book, found at the end of Volume II, gives a post office box in New York City as his address,<sup>4</sup> but a check of the 1900 Census for New York did not reveal any likely entry for him, suggesting that he had not as yet immigrated, or that he was living elsewhere. The latter turned out to be the case, for in the *Proceedings of the New England Historic Genealogical Society* for 1906, which listed him as a donor to the society,<sup>5</sup> his address was given as Hasbrouck Heights [Bergen County], New Jersey, and it was there that he was found in the 1900 Census.

On 11 June 1900, he was listed as being 36 years old, born in December of 1863. He was born in Sweden as were both of his parents. He had immigrated to the United States in 1890 and was still an alien. He gave his occupation as "Heraldist and Genealogist." His wife was listed as Anna Anjou, born in Sweden of Swedish parents, in October of 1863. They had been married eleven years and had no children. Living with them was Anna's mother, listed as Maria Anjou, born in November of 1827, a widow, mother of two, who had immigrated in 1899.<sup>6</sup> This entry raised a very interesting question - did Gustave Anjou marry a cousin - a woman with the same surname?

Swedish emigration records are quite detailed and are available on microfilm at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, as well as the Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center in Rock Island, IL and the American Swedish Institute in Minneapolis, MN. The police in each port of departure were given a list of emigrants as each ship left, yet no reference was found for Gustave Anjou leaving the port cities of Stockholm, Göteborg or Malmö in 1890.

The International Genealogical Index for Sweden revealed concentrations of the name Anjou in the counties of Stockholm, Uppsala and Gävleborg.<sup>7</sup>

Swedish civil registration of births, marriages and deaths since 1860 is arranged by county, then by year and then by parish, so looking for a marriage for Gustave Anjou in 1888 or 1889 in each of the counties mentioned was deemed a manageable project. The trail led to the city of Stockholm, where all of the parishes mentioned hereafter are located.

Marriage records for Stockholm were checked for the years 1888 and 1889, and although no marriage for a Gustave Anjou was found, a marriage in Adolf Fredrik Parish in Stockholm for Anna Maria Anjou to Gustaf Ludvig Ljungberg (the letter "l" before "j" is silent in Swedish), a writer (*litteratör*), was noted on 6 April 1889.<sup>8</sup> Ljungberg's birthdate was given as 1 December 1863 and that of his wife as 21 October 1860. Although the year of birth for Anna Maria Anjou is different, the months of birth for both of them and the year of birth for Gustaf Ludvig Ljungberg are the same as those reported in 1900 for Gustave Anjou and his wife.

When Swedes moved from one parish to another, a record was kept by means of two series, consisting of the *utflyttningslängd*, or exit list and the *inflyttningslängd*, or entry list. The *utflyttningslängd* for Adolf Fredrik Parish for 1889 showed that Anna Maria Anjou Ljungberg moved to Kungsholmen Parish on 10 April - four days after her marriage.<sup>9</sup> No comparable entry was found for her husband, but on 16 April 1889, the *litteratör* Gustaf Ludvig Ljungberg and Anna Maria Anjou were registered in the *inflyttningslängd* of Kungsholmen Parish.<sup>10</sup> This record gave the information that Gustaf was born in Katarina Parish 1 December 1863 and that Anna was born in Klara Parish 21 October 1860. It also indicated that Gustaf had been a resident of Katarina Parish before moving to Kungsholmen.

The civil register of births for Klara Parish showed that Anna Maria Anjou was born on 21 Oct. 1860,<sup>11</sup> the daughter of Jacob Anjou and Maria Gustava Spångberg. The civil register of births for Katarina Parish gave the information that the only Gustaf Ludvig, being born on 1 December 1863, was the son of unknown parents (*okända*).<sup>12</sup>

Was Gustave Anjou really identical to Gustaf Ludvig Ljungberg? Evidence from American records proves this. The 1900 Census already showed that his mother-in-law was Maria. She was living with Gustave on Staten Island in 1915,<sup>13</sup> but not in 1920.<sup>14</sup> Maria Anjou died on Staten Island on 18 January 1919. On her death certificate, her date of birth was given simply as 1827 and her parents were listed as Joseph and Maria Anjou (*sic!*).<sup>15</sup> The *inflyttningslängd* for Kungsholmen Parish showed that Maria Gustava Anjou, *född* (née) Spångberg, was born in Västerås on 20 November 1827 and moved to Hummerbergsgatan in Stockholm on 12 April 1889, four days before Gustaf and Anna moved to the same address.<sup>16</sup>



In addition to his mother-in-law, Gustave Anjou's household in 1915 also included a sister-in-law, Wilhelmina Anjou, 45 years old, who had been in the country for 14 years. On 28 February 1901, Wilhelmina Anjou, 36 years old, had arrived in New York City on the ship *Teutonic* from Liverpool.<sup>17</sup> Her ticket had been paid for by "Gust. Anjou," her brother-in-law, whom she was going to join. The *inflytningslängd* for Kungsholmen Parish showed that one Christina Wilhelmina Anjou, born in Adolf Fredrik Parish 17 August 1864, moved to Hummerbergsgatan on 23 July 1889.<sup>18</sup> Birth records for Adolf Fredrik Parish showed that Christina Wilhelmina Anjou was born on that date, the daughter of Johan (*sic!*) Anjou and Maria Gustava Spångberg.<sup>19</sup>

Anna M. Anjou, Gustave's wife, died on 6 July 1922. On her death certificate, her date of birth was given as 21 Oct. 1860 and her parents were listed as Jacob Anjou and Maria "Shanberg."<sup>20</sup> That information is close enough to the birth record in Klara Parish to confirm the fact that she was the same person who married Gustaf Ludvig Ljungberg in Adolf Fredrik Parish in Stockholm 6 April 1889.

All the evidence mustered above regarding Gustave Anjou's wife, mother-in-law and sister-in-law demonstrates that he must have been the same person as Gustaf Ludvig Ljungberg, born in Katarina Parish in Stockholm 1 Dec. 1863.

How consistent was Gustaf Ludvig Ljungberg, also known as Gustave Anjou, in employing his false identity? In the Federal Census of 1900, he reported his place of birth and that of his parents as Sweden,<sup>21</sup> but in the 1905 New Jersey,<sup>22</sup> 1915<sup>23</sup> and 1925<sup>24</sup> New York State censuses and the 1910<sup>25</sup> and 1920 Federal censuses he reported his place of birth as France. In 1920 he reported his father's place of birth as France and his mother's as Sweden.<sup>26</sup>

The 1900 Census indicated that Gustave Anjou emigrated to America in 1890. On 1 September 1915 in the Supreme Court of the County of Richmond, New York, Gustave Anjou declared his intention of becoming a citizen of the United States. He petitioned to become a citizen in the same court on 20 September 1917, and was naturalized on 9 March 1918. He stated that he was 51 years old (in 1915) and a genealogist by occupation. He gave his place of birth as Paris, France; his date of birth as 1 December 1863 and his citizenship as French. His wife Anna's date and place of birth were given as 21 October 1860 in Stockholm. He declared that he had arrived in New York on the ship *Bothnia* from Liverpool on 5 April 1890, and that he had continuously resided in the state of New York since 7 April 1907. Although he had left Liverpool on 21 March 1890, his last foreign residence was given as Stockholm.<sup>27</sup>

The passenger arrival list of the ship *Bothnia*, which did indeed arrive in New York 5 April 1890, did not show a Gustave Anjou, citizen of France. It did,

however, show a 27 year-old male laborer named G(*illegible*) L. Ljanberg (*sic!*) and his 29 year-old wife Anna, both Swedish citizens. The names and ages make it apparent that this couple was Gustaf and Anna Ljungberg.<sup>28</sup>

Even Anjou's academic credentials appear to have been fabricated. A letter to Uppsala University inquiring about him under the name of Gustaf Ludvig Ljungberg, received the following reply:<sup>29</sup>

"In short I can inform you that there was no Gustaf Ludvig Ljungberg at all studying at Uppsala University during the period 1878 to 1893 . . . . May I add that the situation isn't new to us: as a matter of fact emigrants often invented an academical background."

Gustave Anjou, also known as Gustaf Ludvig Ljungberg, did, however, come from an academic family. Although his birth record indicated that his parents (*föräldrar*) were unknown, a column for the age of the mother indicated that she was 36 years old at the time of his birth.<sup>30</sup> The *inflyttningslängd* of Katarina Parish in Stockholm indicated that Gustaf Ludvig Jungberg (*sic!*), born in Katarina Parish on 1 December 1863, moved into the parish from St. Nikolai Parish on 3 May 1884. On the same date Maria Lovisa Jungberg, née Hagberg, widow of Carl Gustaf Jungberg, a language teacher, who had died on 20 December 1883, also moved into the parish, to the same address as Gustaf.<sup>31</sup> She was born in Stockholm 19 December 1827, and was accompanied by her daughter, Selma Constantia Jungberg, born in St. Nikolai Parish 29 May 1868. Further research allowed the following family history to be reconstructed.

Gustaf Ludvig Ljungberg or Jungberg was the illegitimate son of Carl Gustaf Jungberg by his housekeeper, Maria Lovisa Hagberg. Carl Gustaf Jungberg, in turn, was born in Göteborg 9 May 1807, son of Lars Jungberg and Britta Maria Jansson. After attending the Göteborg Commercial College (*Göteborgs Handelsinstitut*) in 1826-1827 he worked as a bookkeeper. He was last of record in Göteborg in 1831.<sup>32</sup>

In 1839 Carl Gustaf Jungberg published his first book, a Swedish translation of Bulwer Lytton's *Lady of Lyons*. This was followed in 1843 by a multilingual conversational manual for Swedish, English, French and German, published in Berlin. In 1845 he published a travelogue of a trip through Germany, Belgium, France and England. In 1855 and 1857 he published a conversational guide to Swedish and English. He published Swedish/English pocket dictionaries (*handlexika*) in 1869, 1874, 1875 and 1885 (the latter posthumously). He also published a business dictionary for Swedish, English, French and German in 1873. In 1870 he published a book of 103 English language exercises (*språkövningar*) and in 1869 and in 1880 manuals for Swedish emigrants to America.<sup>33</sup>

At some point in all of this publishing activity, Carl Gustaf married and had at least two children, a daughter, Ida Gustava, born in 1845 and a son, Carl Edvard, born in 1847.<sup>34</sup> His first wife was deceased by 1863, and in that year's tax census (*mantalslängd*) of Maria Magdalena Parish in Stockholm, his housekeeper was listed as Maria Lov. Hagberg, born in 1827.<sup>35</sup> She would have been almost 36 years old at the birth of Gustaf Ludvig - the same age as given for the mother listed in the birth record. In 1864 and 1865 she was still listed as Carl Gustaf's housekeeper, but there was no listing for her son, Gustaf Ludvig.<sup>36</sup> In the 1866 *mantalslängd* of St. Nikolai Parish in Stockholm, Gustaf Ludvig was listed for the first time as Carl Gustaf's son - even though his parents had not yet married.<sup>37</sup> He was so listed in 1867 and 1868.<sup>38</sup>

Gustaf Ludvig's absence from the 1864 and 1865 *mantalslängder* may be explained by the fact that his mother was technically a resident of Katarina Parish, which is why his birth was registered there. He may have been listed with her in the census (*mantalslängd*) of the parish and her listing in Carl Gustaf Jungberg's household in Maria Magdalena is probably duplicative. She remained a resident of Katarina Parish until January of 1868, when she moved to St. Nikolai Parish.<sup>39</sup> On 29 May 1868 she gave birth to her second child by Carl Gustaf, the daughter Selma Constantia, listed in the move back to Katarina Parish in 1884.<sup>40</sup> On 16 June 1868, she and Carl Gustaf Jungberg were married in St. Nikolai Parish.<sup>41</sup> There they were found in the 1870 and 1880 Swedish censuses and in both cases Gustaf Ludvig was listed as the son of Carl Gustaf Jungberg.<sup>42</sup> A daughter Maria Cecilia, born on 26 November 1870,<sup>43</sup> appeared on the 1870 census but apparently did not survive to 1880, as she was not listed in the census for that year.

The *inflyttningslängd* for Katarina Parish, which recorded the arrival of Gustaf Ludvig Jungberg, his mother, and his sister on 3 May 1884, also recorded two very interesting facts about Gustaf during his residence in the parish. On 8 March 1889, he placed a notice in the official Swedish newspaper - the *Post och Inrikes Tidningar* - that he now would use the spelling of "Ljungberg" for his surname.<sup>44</sup>

Why he changed the spelling of his name is not known, but it may have had something to do with the extensive notes in the *inflyttningslängd* regarding his serving a six-month term of hard labor in the Västerås County Prison. His crime was forgery (*förfalskning*). From 20 January to 20 February 1886 he served as editor of *Sölvesborgs Allehanda*, a bi-weekly newspaper published in Sölvesborg in southern Sweden. Soon after his arrival he bought an accident insurance policy, notified the company that he had suffered an accident, which was faked, and in order to prove his case produced a forged medical certificate as well as false witnesses. The crime was exposed and his case went through the courts all the way to the Supreme Court (*Högsta domstolen*), where on 13 September 1886 it upheld the sentence of six months' incarceration in the penitentiary.<sup>45</sup>

Gustaf Ludvig Ljungberg and his wife Anna must have left Sweden prior to 21 March 1890 - on which date they left Liverpool for New York. The fact that they left Sweden, however, is not recorded in the *utflytningslängder* of Kungsholmen Parish for 1889 nor 1890, the official emigration register for Kungsholmen, nor the police registers for the ports of Stockholm, Göteborg and Malmö. Did Gustaf and Anna leave surreptitiously? Did Gustaf forge false identity papers in order to leave the country? Research on this question continues.

Somewhere between 1890 and 1900 Gustaf assumed his wife's maiden name. The earliest mention yet found of Gustave Anjou in his new identity is in the January 1900 issue of the *New York Genealogical and Biographical Record*, where he is listed as having joined the society since the beginning of the season.<sup>46</sup> Where Gustaf/Gustave was between 1890 and 1900 and under what name are also subjects of ongoing research.<sup>47</sup>

Anjou's obituary stated that he made "sixty trips to Europe and several voyages around the world" in conducting his research. If this were so, then as an alien he should have appeared in the passenger arrival lists every time he returned to the United States prior to 1918. Yet he was not found under any of his names arriving in New York between 1902 and 1918. After 1918, as a U.S. citizen, he should have been found obtaining a passport, but again the records are silent.

Gustave Anjou made his will on 30 November 1939. He mentioned an adopted daughter, Grace Blyth Anjou, wife of Max Kenyon, to whom he left \$100. He left the "rest, residue and remainder" of his estate, real and personal, "now in my possession, or which I may acquire or inherit during my lifetime, including all rights and interest in my books, copyrights, manuscripts, as well as moneys due me from any auctioner (*sic!*) or institution on account of sale of my manuscripts" to his housekeeper, Mrs. Florence Enright Rainey, whom he also made his executrix.<sup>48</sup>

Gustave Anjou died on 2 March 1942 at Tottenville, Staten Island of *diabetes mellitus* and was buried at Fairview Cemetery in West New Brighton.<sup>49</sup> His adopted daughter was listed as the informant on his death certificate and she gave the following information about him: he was born 1 December 1861 in France, the son of Gustave Anjou, a native of France, and Marie [surname not given], a native of Finland. This partially correct information reflects Anjou's invented identity. In creating it, his method was just the opposite of how he created his false pedigrees.<sup>50</sup> Almost everything he said in the census and in his naturalization papers, and what was said about him in his obituary (presumably supplied by him during his life) regarding his name, place of birth, nationality, and academic credentials was either patently false or a distortion of the truth. The few correct pieces of information given about his and his wife's dates of birth, their arrival in New York, and his association with his in-laws in this country coupled with the exacting nature of Swedish record-keeping were enough to determine the true facts of his life.



In Sweden, Gustaf Ludvig Ljungberg called himself a writer (*litteratör*). In this country he described himself as a genealogist, heraldist and historical writer. It is now known that he was a forger in both countries - an inventive one perhaps - but a forger just the same. It would take a psychologist to explain why he embarked upon this career, but his motive seems fairly clear - financial gain.

Having been discovered in his native country, he came to America, falsified his identity and proceeded to take financial advantage of unsuspecting individuals by falsifying their pedigrees. Curiously, on his death certificate his adopted daughter gave his occupation as "meteorologist - retired." Perhaps this is an ironic epitaph, for like weather reports, his genealogical research was only partially correct, but when it came to defrauding his clients, he knew exactly which way the wind blew.

## Notes and References

<sup>1</sup>*New York Times*, 2 March 1942, p. 24, col. 2.

<sup>2</sup>*Ibid.*, 27 December 1927, p. 1, col. 5.

<sup>3</sup>Louise Hasbrouck Zimm, "Lieutenant Gysbert Crum of Esopus, NY (Was He a Step-son of Jan Joosten Van Meteren?)," *The New York Genealogical and Biographical Record*, Vol. 81 (October 1950), p. 202.

<sup>4</sup>Gustave Anjou, PhD, *Ulster County, N.Y. Probate Records in the Office of the Surrogate, and in the County Clerk's Office at Kingston, N.Y.: A Careful Abstract and Translation of the Dutch and English Wills, Letters of Administration after Intestates, and Inventories from 1665, with Genealogical and Historical Notes, and List of Dutch and Frisian Baptismal Names with their English Equivalents* (New York: Gustave Anjou, 1906), II: endleaf.

<sup>5</sup>"Proceedings of the New England Historic Genealogical Society at the Annual Meeting, 10 January 1906, with Memoirs of Deceased Members, 1905," *The New England Historical and Genealogical Register*, Vol. 60 (April 1906, supplement): p. xxxiv.

<sup>6</sup>1900 Federal Census, Hasbrouck Heights Borough, Lodi Township, Bergen County, NJ, ED 20, sheet 7A; # 126/139.

<sup>7</sup>International Genealogical Index, 1988, Sweden.

<sup>8</sup>Sweden, Statistiska Centralbyrån (SCB): *Utdrag ur ministerialböcker* (Extracts from Parish Registers): *Vigselbok* (Marriage Register), Adolf Fredrik Parish, Stockholm, April 1889, No. 45. FHL # 341044.

<sup>9</sup>*Utflyttningslängd* (Exit List), Adolf Fredrik Parish, Stockholm, 1889, BIIA1:19, 10 April 1889. FHL # 387986.

<sup>10</sup>*Inflyttningslängd* (Entry List), Kungsholmen Parish, Stockholm, 1889, BI:22, 16 April 1889. FHL # 388128.

<sup>11</sup>SCB, *Födelsebok* (Baptismal Register), Klara Parish, Stockholm, 1860, No. 296. FHL # 197126.

<sup>12</sup>SCB, *Födelsebok* (Baptismal Register), Katarina Parish, Stockholm, 1863, No. 583. FHL # 197129.

<sup>13</sup>1915 N.Y. State Census, Richmond County, Assembly District 1, Election District 11, Ward 1, p. 22. FHL # 523336.



- <sup>14</sup> 1920 Federal Census, New York City, Richmond Borough, Ward 1, Richmond County, New York ED 1565, sheet 6B. #114/119.
- <sup>15</sup> State of New York, Department of Health of the City of New York Bureau of Records, Certificate of Death, Richmond Borough 1919, # 166. FHL # 1322814.
- <sup>16</sup> *Inflyttningslängd* (Entry List), Kungsholmen Parish, Stockholm, 1889, BI:22, 12 April 1889. FHL # 388128.
- <sup>17</sup> Immigration Passenger List, New York City, *Teutonic*, 28 February 1901. NARA T715, Roll 173, Vol. 283, p. 215.
- <sup>18</sup> *Inflyttningslängd* (Entry List), Kungsholmen Parish, Stockholm, 1889, BI:22, 23 July 1889. FHL # 388128.
- <sup>19</sup> SCB, *Födelsebok* (Baptismal Register), Adolf Fredrik Parish, 1864, No. 371. FHL # 197130.
- <sup>20</sup> State of New York, Department of Health of the City of New York Bureau of Records, Certificate of Death, Richmond Borough, 1922, #1115.
- <sup>21</sup> 1900 Federal Census, Hasbrouck Heights Borough, Lodi Township, Bergen County, NJ, ED 20, sheet 7 A, # 126/139.
- <sup>22</sup> 1905 N.J. State Census, Hasbrouck Heights Borough, Lodi Township, Bergen County, NJ, ED 1, sheet 27, #286/296. FHL #1688588.
- <sup>23</sup> 1915 N.Y., State Census, Richmond County, Assembly District 1, Election District 11, Ward 1, p. 22. FHL # 523336.
- <sup>24</sup> 1925 N.Y. State Census, West New Brighton, Richmond County, Assembly District 1, Election District 27, Ward 1, p. 16. FHL #532409.
- <sup>25</sup> 1910 Federal Census, West New Brighton, Borough of Richmond, New York City, Richmond County, ED 1303, sheet 7B, #128/152.
- <sup>26</sup> 1920 Federal Census, New York City, Richmond Borough, Ward 1, Richmond County, New York ED 1565, sheet 6B, # 114/119.
- <sup>27</sup> Naturalization Petition and Record, 16:1602, Supreme Court, Richmond County, New York. FHL # 946393.
- <sup>28</sup> Customs Passenger List, New York City, *Bothnia*, 5 April 1890, NARA, M237, Roll 545, No. 418, lines 446,447.
- <sup>29</sup> Letter dated 13 April 1988 from Thomas Aurelius, Keeper of University Archives, Uppsala University, Uppsala.
- <sup>30</sup> SCB, *Födelsebok* (Baptismal Register), Katarina Parish, Stockholm, 1863, No. 583. FHL # 197129.
- <sup>31</sup> *Inflyttningslängd* (Entry List), Katarina Parish, Stockholm, 1884, BI:31, 3 May 1884 # 158-159. FHL #388075.
- <sup>32</sup> Axel Ahlström, *Matrikel öfver Göteborgs Handelsinstituts elever I: 1826-1885* (Göteborg, Hugo Brusevitz, 1918), p. 5.
- <sup>33</sup> *British Museum General Catalogue of Printed Books: Photolithographic Edition to 1955* (London: The Trustees of the British Museum, 1962), 119:833 and *The National Union Catalog: Pre-1956 Imprints* (London: Mansell, 1973), 286:573.
- <sup>34</sup> *Mantalslängder* (Tax Lists), 1863, Maria Norra, Stockholm, p. 11, No. 45. FHL #1677888, item 2.
- <sup>35</sup> *Ibid.*
- <sup>36</sup> *Mantalslängder* (Tax Lists), 1864, Maria Norra, Stockholm, p. 13, No. 48 FHL #1677935, item 2; *Mantalslängder* (Tax Lists), 1865, Staden Inre (St. Nikolai), p. 148, No. 631. FHL #1677969, item 2.

<sup>37</sup> *Mantalslängder* (Tax Lists), 1866, Staden Inre (St. Nikolai), Stockholm, p. 445, No. 2012. FHL #1693682. Carl Gustaf Jungberg's move from Maria to St. Nikolai was not recorded in either parish.

<sup>38</sup> *Mantalslängder* (Tax Lists), 1867, Staden Inre (St. Nikolai), Stockholm, No. 2051. FHL #1693766; 1868, Staden Inre (St. Nikolai), No. 2075. FHL # 1693773.

<sup>39</sup> *Uflyttningsslängd*, (Exit List), Katarina Parish, Stockholm, 1868 BII:10, 13 January 1868, # 1. FHL #388081; *Inflyttningsslängd* (Entry List), St. Nikolai Parish, Stockholm, 1868, BIA:20, 17 January 1868, # 3. FHL #388170. In order to find Maria Lovisa Hagberg in the *mantalslängder* of Katarina Parish prior to 1868 an exact street address is required. Further work on her family may aid in determining this information.

<sup>40</sup> SCB, *Födelsebok* (Baptismal Register), St. Nikolai Parish, Stockholm, 1868, No. 119. FHL # 197137.

<sup>41</sup> SCB, *Vigselbok* (Marriage Register), St. Nikolai Parish, Stockholm, 1868, No. 45. FHL #197137.

<sup>42</sup> SCB, *Folkräkningslista* (Census), St. Nikolai Parish, Stockholm, City block named Phaëton, house No. 5. FHL #341391; St. Nikolai Parish, Stockholm, 1880:1, p. 275. FHL #341421.

<sup>43</sup> SCB, *Födelsebok* (Baptismal Register), St. Nikolai Parish, Stockholm, 1870, No. 294. FHL #197140.

<sup>44</sup> *Inflyttningsslängd* (Entry List), Katarina Parish, Stockholm, 1884, BI:31, 3 May 1884, #158. FHL #388075.

<sup>45</sup> Ibid; Bernhard Lundstedt, *Sveriges periodiska litteratur*, I-III (Stockholm 1902), III, p.350; Riksarkivet: Högsta domstolen. Case No. 898 dated 13 Sept. 1886; I am indebted to Dr. Erik Wikén of Uppsala, Sweden for calling my attention to this material regarding Ljungberg.

<sup>46</sup> "Society Proceedings," *New York Genealogical & Biographical Record*, Vol. 31 (January 1900): p.64

<sup>47</sup> Since the publication of the original article, it has been determined that Gustave Anjou lived in Chicago for at least part of the time between 1890 and 1900. A. Anjou's treatise, *Den Vallonska släkten Anjou jemte förgreningar: Genealogiska och Biografiska Anteckningar 1630-1902* (Eksjö 1902), pp. 13-14 states that Gustaf Ljungberg was living near Chicago as late as the fall of 1900. It is known, however, that Gustave Anjou was in New Jersey by June of 1900. A search of the city directories of Chicago from 1890 to 1900 revealed the following:

1893 - Ljungberg, Gustaf, clerk, 89 Chicago Avenue.

1896 - Ljungberg, Gust., shoemaker, 5660 So. Halsted .

1897 - Jungberg, Gustave, clk., h. 4940 Princeton Avenue.

<sup>48</sup> Wills, 42:404, Richmond County, New York. FHL #509528.

<sup>49</sup> New York City, Bureau of Records, Department of Health, Borough of Richmond, Certificate of Death, 1942, #455.

<sup>50</sup> For a discussion of Gustave Anjou's method of operation, see Robert Charles Anderson, "We Wuz Robbed! The *modus operandi* of Gustave Anjou" *Genealogical Journal*, 19 (1991), pp. 47-58.

# How to Give Your Husband a Kingdom in Five Easy Steps

Delores J. Gustafson\*

“Why do we have to learn English history? My ancestors were Swedish!” This was the question my husband, Robert Gustafson, posed to his teachers in Nashwauk on the Iron Range of Minnesota in the 1940s. His grandparents and those of all of his classmates were emigrants from Sweden, Finland, Italy, Serbia or Croatia. None of them came from England. His question was pertinent and he had a good argument for his part of the world. However, the Minnesota State school curriculum was set. American History included English history but not Swedish.

He also wondered about his Swedish heritage, but his father was just not interested. When he asked his grandfather about Sweden, he would only reply - “It’s not important. We’re American now and earning a living is the most important thing.” That closed the door effectively on finding out about his Swedish background from relatives.

Today - through my research, I have given my husband a *Swedish* kingdom.

I want this story of my search to be a “push start” for anyone who believes one must have a great deal of information before beginning the search into an immigrant family. I offer you five steps toward finding your “kingdom.”

**Step One:** Learn the ropes and practice, practice, practice.

Our first encounter with Scandinavia came in 1972. Our chartered tour took us to Copenhagen, Stockholm and Helsinki. With the help of my mother, who is Danish, we found a young relative in Copenhagen. He totally charmed us with his flaming red hair and beard and his enthusiasm in meeting American relatives. I began then to think about finding my Danish roots. In Stockholm we were appalled by the five pages of Gustafson names in the telephone directory. We despaired of ever finding Swedish relatives. In Helsinki we had two days to visit Finnish relatives and found their family history quite well documented with its roots in Sweden as well.

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When we moved to Vermont from Minnesota in 1974, I could not escape my search. Genealogical research is a part of the air in Vermont. I enrolled in a genealogy course and began searching my Danish and German roots. I now had the tools to do it correctly.

I concentrated on my German ancestors because of the challenge of my course. Family records were sparse, but I was able to find the entire family of seven children and their parents who had emigrated from Pomerania in Germany between 1870 and 1875. An elderly relative in Minnesota had been tracing the descendants, so we joined forces. The result was a small family history book, which gave me courage to continue my research.

We moved twice in the next four years but I could always seek out local history places and become involved in their research. In 1979 we lived in Colorado Springs. The White House Ranch, a small historic site, needed more information on the first residents of a home being restored. I became their researcher. I used my regular research tools plus the local newspaper files, the Family History Center of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, the archives of the Colorado, Ohio and Minnesota Historical Societies and the Pioneer Museum of Colorado Springs. I even travelled to Ohio to interview relatives. I received information from England and South Africa and was careful to file and index my information correctly. I now had everything that was needed to write a great book about that particular family. Now I had definitely acquired practice in researching family history.

**Step Two:** Live in an area where your ethnic background and sources are very strong.

When we returned to Minnesota to live, once again the Swedish question reared its head. We joined the American Swedish Institute (ASI) as well as the Minnesota Genealogical Society. I took classes dealing with research in Scandinavian records. Then I brought Bob's meager Swedish family information to the archivist at ASI. We had three bits of data:

1. Birth date of grandpa Albin Werner Gustafson - 25 Nov. 1865.
2. Approximate date of emigration - 1890-1892.
3. Photograph of a woman purported to be the mother of Albin with the studio name on the border - Harold Eriksson, Skövde 1921.

First we looked up Skövde and found it to be a city in southern Sweden between the lakes of Vättern and Vänern. Bob had always said that if anyone pushed his grandfather about where he came from in Sweden, he would invariably answer - "Stockholm." Skövde is not near Stockholm. Bob's grandfather was an

iron miner so we assumed that he came from an area in Sweden where there were mines. Skövde is a center of a large farming area and one of the earliest settled parts of the country away from the coasts. The early mines are north and south of Skövde. Next we began a search of the microfilm records of emigration from Sweden between 1889 and 1893. Gustafson is a common name but the baptismal names Albin Werner were a bit unusual so that would help us. We found many Gustafsons but in November 1890 we found the only Albin Werner Gustafsson. He had come from Locketorp Parish (Skar.) and had headed for Republic, MI through Hull, England at the age of 24. We searched the map of the area around Skövde and found Locketorp just 15 kilometers to the north. We had found the beginnings of our search. ASI was promoting a special project at this time to encourage people to use the emigration files. For the sum of \$25.00 the information could be sent to Sweden and archivists would search for the emigrant, his parents and his birth place. We sent in all of our facts and waited. In the meanwhile I went ahead with a search of my own.

**Step Three:** Live near a Family History Center of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

In Golden Valley, a few miles from our home, is the treasure known as the Family History Center operated by the Mormon Church. It is open to anyone wishing to find his or her ancestors. I reviewed its files and for a nominal fee ordered the parish records of Locketorp Parish for the years 1885-1890. Then I waited for the film to be forwarded from Salt Lake City.

The Swedish parish records are truly marvelous. Not only do they contain the names of the parishioners, but also their birth places, the parish they came from, if they moved into the parish (*inflyttning*) and the date and the parish they moved to, if they left for another parish (*utflyttning*) and the date. As a researcher I could personally hug all those record keepers for the wealth of information they have left us.

Within two weeks I was called by the volunteer at the Family History Center. My films were in and they would be held for a month. I reserved a morning for searching. These parish records are not in alphabetical order. They are usually arranged by the farms or villages that are to be found in each parish. Often one page may cover a five year period and document the people who moved to or from the farm. Since I was not looking for a whole family, but only one name, I had to be very careful. In a list of twenty workers on a farm, it would be easy to miss a name. Gustafson was not as common as I had expected it to be in Locketorp Parish and I soon grew accustomed to the old handwriting of the different pastors. After about two hours of peering into the viewing machine, I found this piece of information on page 215 - on a farm named Korsgården, owned by Anders Gustaf Andersson, I found a list of laborers and line 16 read: "*Dräng* (servant) Albin Verner Gustafsson, born in Skövde 25 Nov. 1865.



I had now struck pay dirt. The page also indicated that Bob's grandfather had come to Korsgården in 1886 from Stommen, another farm, recorded on page 166. I turned to that page and found that he had come to Stommen in 1885 from Hagelberg Parish (Skar.) and had gone to Korsgården in 1886. He left 22 Oct. 1887 to go to Våmb (earlier Vårfruhem) Parish (Skar.). Before photographing the page I was surprised to find his name once again near the bottom of the page. Had he returned? Here was a great find. Across the line following his name and birthdate was a great deal of writing which filled the line. It read in Swedish - "Erhållit K. Majts. tillstånd af d. 24 Oct.'90 att afflytta från riket." (In translation - "Has received permission from His Majesty's Government 24 Oct. 1890 to emigrate). On the final line was the following statement - "Exerc. 1 g. året vid Sappör bataljonen i Carlsborg år 1887. No. 112 11/1886." (In translation - "He served for one year in the Sapper Battalion at Karlsborg and was No. 112). In the column headed "Utflyttning" was the marvelous information that he had left for America 31 Oct. 1890. I had certainly found Bob's grandfather. The data presented in the parish household examination roll had corroborated the information that I had from the emigration lists which stated that he had left Göteborg in November 1890.

I made copies of all the pages, making sure that I had written down the film numbers and the names on all of the pages so that I could verify the information. Now I could begin ordering the films and thus work backwards from 1885. This is usually a slow process but I hoped to get back to the year Albin lived with his parents. I ordered my next film, Hagelberg Parish (Skar.) for 1880-1885.

Over the next few months my work progressed as I ordered and received the films. Albin had come to Hagelberg from Sjögerstad Parish (Skar.) in 1884. The Sjögerstad household examination roll showed that he had come from page 31 in 1883 and on that particular page I found that he had come from Skövde in 1882. This gave me a new place to search but here I was stopped. Skövde is a large city and has a huge parish. After spending two days getting through the records of 1880-1885 I could find nothing. I had nowhere else to turn.

At this point in time a letter arrived from the Swedish archivist in Ramsele in Sweden. It was an answer to the ASI inquiry of five months earlier. Here much of my search was summed up in a one page letter. It stated that Albin Verner had been born in Björby in Skövde Parish, the illegitimate son of Anna Charlotta Schuer. Eleven months later she had married Erik Gustaf Larsson in Skövde. The archivist interjected that he did not know if Erik Gustaf Larsson was indeed the father. The letter continued with the parents and birth places of both Anna and Erik and even the name of the farm, where Anna was born. I now had many jumping off points for an entire family search.

The rest of the year was occupied with ordering films and hunting for the Schuer and Larsson families, one a very unusual name, the other very common. Fortunately some member of the Mormon Church had purchased all of the Kyrkefalla Parish (Skar.) records for the Family History Center, the parish of all the Larssons. I could trace the entire family back to the 1700s in a very short time without that "order and wait" syndrome. The Schuers were a very prominent and large family in the Skaraborg records and because I had the name of the original farm, my search time was cut in half. Soon my research showed the following interesting information.

The Schuer family originally came from Göteborg and many had been soldiers. The farm, Marbogården, had been awarded to one Schuer and the others ran it. The father of Anna took over another farm but things must not have gone very well. Anna, the oldest child of eight, hired out to work on a neighboring farm at the age of 19. Her mother and the two youngest sisters had just died, all within a few days. Could there have been an epidemic? Anna returned home a year later, probably to help with the remaining five children. In February of 1863 she had an illegitimate son named Carl Johan. In November of 1865 she moved to the Björby farm of Erik Gustaf Larsson near Skövde and soon after her arrival her second son, Albin Verner was born.

Erik Gustaf Larsson had moved to Björby two years earlier in 1863. He had grown up on the Tubberud farm in Kyrkefalla Parish. His mother, Sara Cajsa Eliasdotter, had inherited a part of her father's farm. When she married Lars Svensson, they had remained at Tubberud, working it. When Erik Gustaf was but 14 years old, his father died, leaving Sara Cajsa with three boys and a farm. The three sons worked the small farm, but Erik Gustaf was the only survivor when his two brothers died quite young. When Erik's mother died in December 1861, Erik Gustaf either lost or sold the farm. In 1863 someone else had the farm and he had moved to Björby in Skövde Parish.

Anna Charlotta Schuer and Erik Gustaf Larsson lived together and finally married in October 1866. The records after that date do not label their son Albin Verner as illegitimate. In 1868 the couple together with two small sons moved to Fröjered Parish (Skar.).

Here I lost the family. I read and re-read the Fröjered records with no success. How could they disappear? Finally I returned to the Skövde records which had failed me earlier. I ordered films of the earlier years this time, for 1870-1880, hoping I might locate them. At least I now had a whole family to look for, instead of just one name. Happily, I found them in 1874. Many things had occurred between 1868 and 1874. They must have lost whatever small holdings they had because the family appears at the Öm poor house (*fattigstuga*). Two more sons were added during those lost years - Thure, born in 1868 and August, born in 1874.

Sadly Thure died in 1874, shortly after the birth of August. Both Carl Johan and Albin Verner had their names crossed out when they evidently left to hire out for work in 1881 and 1882, leaving their parents and brother behind in the poor house.

I decided to attempt to find out what happened to them. I checked the Skövde records for 1885-1895 and found that these films were not as yet available in the United States. My search for Albin Verner had been very successful and we now knew much about his Swedish life. Still there were those questions that continued to nag me. What happened to Albin Verner's two brothers? Did they live to raise families? Did his parents die in poverty? I needed more help.

**Step Four:** Find a Swedish researcher who is thrilled and excited about emigrant research.

Once again I wrote to Sweden. The *pastorsexpedition* (church office) in Skövde referred me to *Skara stifts- och landsbibliotek*, a local history library. Here I found the most amazing gentleman - Dr. Arne Sträng. Within two months he found not only the death dates but also the burial places of Albin Verner's parents. He found where the two brothers had gone and the names of some of their children. He also became fascinated with the Schuer family since it had merged with the Lagerberg family. He told us that the Lagerbergs were members of the nobility and he copied pertinent pages from the classic Swedish work on the nobility, published by Gustaf Elgenstierna. He included this in a large packet with a letter saying - "Gustava Lagerberg, a noblewoman, had crossed the class lines by marrying outside the nobility, i.e. a commoner, Pasch F. Schuer, even though he was a person of rank, being an officer. The manor house in which her parents were married in 1777 is now a part of our museum in Skara."

Since the Schuer name is so unusual in Sweden, he looked in the Stockholm telephone catalogue and sent us the names and addresses of the only two Schuers there. I wrote to one of them, Per Christer Schuer, and within two weeks I had a large envelope with the history of the Schuer family written by his father and grandfather. He was very pleased to have found the lost relatives and extended an invitation to visit whenever we came to his country.

Through Dr. Sträng we also got the name of a Lagerberg/Schuer relative who lived near Skövde - Anna Lundquister, who would be happy to meet us. Then he added - "I too, would enjoy visiting with you." Of course all of these invitations had to lead to my last step, number five.

**Step Five:** Travel to the land of your heritage and meet your relatives.

Since our fortieth wedding anniversary would occur in August of 1992, we planned to incorporate my Danish and Swedish genealogical research into our travel plans for that time. We flew to Copenhagen and Aalborg to visit the Danish cemeteries and towns which were important to my family history. Relatives received us gladly and we had much to discuss.

We then drove to Skövde in Sweden and began visiting those places where Albin Verner had lived. We took pictures of farms, churches, cemeteries and the countryside. We met Bob's second cousin, Anders Gustafsson in Degerfors, and compared notes about their grandfathers. Bob's family was unknown in their memories. In the printed history, Albin Verner was listed as the second son of Anna Charlotta but the only information about him was from 1928, the year that Anna died. Behind his name in the printed history was the word unknown (*okänd*) with the address of Bovalik, Minnesota, USA, which we quickly corrected to Biwabik. Perhaps the name of this Iron Range town had been found and miscopied from Anna Charlotta's papers when the Schuers did their research in 1969. Bob's father had said that he remembered Albin having written letters to his mother in Sweden. We were glad to be able to give the Gustafssons in Sweden the correct family history of the Gustafsons in America.

We also met Anna Lindquister, a third cousin of Bob's father. She greeted us at the door of her lovely yellow farm house wearing the traditional folk costume. Her daughter and granddaughter were there to help with the translating. Anna could understand some English, but had trouble speaking it. We shall never forget their warm welcome as they prepared a Swedish meal for us consisting of salmon, potatoes, salad, freshly baked bread and apple pie with vanilla sauce and lots of coffee.

The high point of our Swedish visit came when Anna's neighbor, Walter, a genealogist, arrived to meet us. He could speak no English, but was very anxious to show us the papers he had prepared for our visit. He had studied Anna's family and had delved thoroughly into the Lagerberg connection in the Swedish nobility books. This was Bob's heritage also. Walter bowed and presented Bob with a set of papers saying - "You are a descendant of Erik Johansson Vasa, the father of the first king of Sweden."

With Anna's daughter acting as the translator he told us this story.

By the early 1500s Denmark had ruled Sweden for over 100 years. There had been uprisings against Denmark those years. In 1471 Sten Sture had defeated Christian I, but Denmark still held the upper hand. In 1520 Christian II, after



defeating Sten Sture the younger, had called upon the Swedish noblemen to gather on the Great Square in Stockholm (*Stortorget*) to settle the peace. The Danish king settled it by killing all 82 Swedish noblemen. Today that event is called the "Blood Bath of Stockholm". It marked the beginning of a revolution which followed.

Four of Bob's relatives were killed in that massacre. One who died, Erik Johansson Vasa, had a daughter named Margareta. She was married to Joakim Brahe and their son, Per, had just been born. The deaths of her father and husband in Stockholm were a great blow to her and her brother Gustav Vasa, who swore retaliation. He organized the populace of Dalarna and during the winter, when least expected, attacked the Danes and drove them from Sweden. The following year Gustav Eriksson Vasa was elected King of Sweden.

Today's Swedish King, Carl XVI Gustaf, can trace his family back to Gustav Vasa. Bob can trace his family back to Margareta, Gustav Vasa's sister. If one counts back through the generations, one will find that Bob is the 13th cousin of the King of Sweden.

That is how I found a kingdom for my husband as a fortieth wedding anniversary gift.

## Lineage

**Erik Johansson Vasa**, died 8 Nov. 1520

Son:

**Gustav I Vasa** (1496-1560)

1. **Carl IX** (1550-1611)
2. **Catharina** of Pfalz-Zweibrücken (1584-1638)
3. **Christina Magdalena** of Pfalz-Zweibrücken (1616-1662)
4. **Fredrik VII Magnus** of Baden-Durlach (1647-1709)
5. **Carl III Wilhelm** of Baden-Durlach (1679-1738)
6. **Fredrik Ernst** of Baden-Durlach (1703-1732)
7. **Carl Fredrik** of Baden (1728-1811)
8. **Carl Leopold Fredrik** of Baden (1790-1852)
9. **Fredrik I Wilhelm August** of Baden (1826-1907)
10. **Sophia Maria Victoria** of Baden (1862-1930)
11. **Gustav VI Adolf** (1882-1978)
12. **Gustav Adolf** (1906-1947)
13. **Carl XVI Gustaf** (1946- )

**Erik Johansson Vasa**, died 8 Nov. 1520

Daughter:

**Margareta Eriksdotter** ( -1536)



1. **Pehr Brahe** (1520-1590)
2. **Erik Brahe** (1552-1614)
3. **Gustaf (Brahe) Örnevinge** (1598-1666)
4. **Anna Örnevinge**, m. Lagerberg ( -1672)
5. **Håkan Lagerberg** (1661-1708)
6. **Pehr Lagerberg** (1707-1777)
7. **Sven Otto Lagerberg** (1747-1792)
8. **Gustava Charlotta Lagerberg**, m. Schuer (1787-1876)
9. **Carl Fredrik Schuer** (1813-1898)
10. **Anna Charlotta Schuer**, m. Larsson (1840-1928)
11. **Albin Verner Gustafsson** (1865-1944)
12. **Charles Verner Gustafson** (1905-1988)
13. **Robert Warner Gustafson** (1930- )

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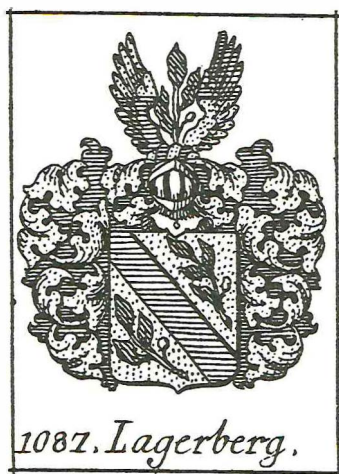
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Coat of arms of the Lagerberg family.

Illustration from Pehr Carlskiöld's

*Svea rikes ridderskaps och adels  
wapn-bok* (Stockholm 1781).

# Absconded Swedish Seamen-Emigrants?

Per Clemensson\*

In order to be able to emigrate to the United States or other faraway lands it was stipulated in the Swedish statutes that after 1860, the traveller, when he purchased his ticket and in connection with the embarkation aboard the emigrant vessel, also had to present an exit permit issued by the clergyman in his home parish. Before 1860 the traveller had had to procure a passport from the county administration (*länsstyrelse*), the city magistrate, the royal bailiff (*kronofogde*) or the local sheriff (*kronolänsman*).

Emigration research has often been stymied by the problem of illegal emigration. Attempts have been made to chart the avenues by which this took place as well as to determine its extent. It is well known that emigrants left Sweden illegally via Germany, Denmark and Norway. A laborer's moving to Norway in search of employment often resulted in his emigration. From the correspondence files of the emigrant agency operated by the Larsson Brothers in Göteborg it is evident that there were cases where the agents aided as well as abetted an emigrant's departure without the benefit of the exit permit. How large these rivulets of emigrants were is difficult to determine without a thorough inventory at the grass roots level.

While chasing down the Göteborg emigrants for the project headed *Göteborgs-Emigranten*, a source of illegal emigration has been found, which can be quantified as to size and extent. In the archives of *Göteborgs Sjömanshus* (The Göteborg Hiring Hall) there exists a rather large collection of discharge journals for Swedish sailors with the signum *Dlc*. They have been kept in a chronological order by the name of the vessel. These journals have been preserved for certain years during the 18th century - (1767-1769) and (1776-1778) and then continually from 1793 up to and including 1961, in all embracing a total of 235 volumes. The information contained in these discharge rolls as well as in the hiring hall

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\*Per Clemensson is the first archivist at the District Archives in Göteborg. His article, published in *Göteborgs-Emigranten* No. 3 (Göteborg 1992), pp. 76-83, is translated and published here with the consent of the author and the board of editors of *Göteborgs-Emigranten*.

coincides quite well with the information in the merchant seaman muster rolls, which by law were instituted in 1841. Thus the information from both of these sources complements each other as well as helps to fill in the gaps.

The earliest journals, i.e. up to 1832, contain the following information concerning the vessel and its crew:

- The captain's name and domicile.
- The vessel's name, home port, the port most recently visited and the vessel's displacement.

The details have been entered on special forms with headings for the various items of information. In the margins we thus come across items concerning the fate of the missing crew members and the reason for this, such as accidental death or jumping ship in a foreign port, as for instance Boston. It has not been possible to determine the accuracy of these marginal notes.

From 1833 on, the journals change appearance. Each page now contains 23 columns. Each page begins with a heading, where we learn the name of the vessel, tonnage, home port, home hiring hall and the ship's owner. The first nine columns deal with information concerning the crew and changes in the contracts for each crew member:

- place and time of signing on board the vessel.
- place and time of death.
- place and time of absconding.
- place and time of discharge.

The columns numbered 10-23 provide information on name, year of birth, place of birth, legal domicile, the name of the hiring hall, the number assigned at the time of registering, marriage status, rank or rating on board, salary, service on board in terms of months and days, fee paid to the hiring hall and finally comments by the vessel's master as to the seaman's deportment (this appears quite infrequently).

In order to map the seamen from Göteborg who are suspected of having emigrated by hiring on board a vessel and then jumped ship in a foreign port the discharge rolls of *Göteborgs Sjömanshus* have been inventoried and registered. In this process all seamen who signed off, absconded or died outside Europe have been excerpted. To excerpt all of the sailors who jumped ship in the various ports of Europe was deemed too time consuming since by far the greater number of these seamen either must have signed on board foreign vessels or in the case of Swedish ships often returned to their homeland.

In the process of excerpting this material the following items have been noted and registered - the sailor's name, rank or rating, his date of birth, his place of birth as well as his domicile, the place and time of death, discharge or absconding, the vessel's name, the year and number in the discharge journal as well as the number of the volume. The excerpting of the discharge rolls for *Göteborgs Sjömanshus* for 1767-1919 has been done in an exemplary and solid manner by Rune Larsson of Göteborg, who has devoted much of his leisure time and great interest to this project.

In like manner, Dan Erneling of Göteborg, who also belongs to the faithful crew of those who belong to the project known as *Göteborgs-Emigranten*, has registered the discharge rolls of *sjömanshus* in such cities as Uddevalla, Strömstad, Lysekil and Marstrand for the time period of 1865-1961. Thus for this project alone, including all ports inventoried, no less than 262 volumes have been examined.

In registering all of the seamen, both from Göteborg as well as others who signed on board vessels with the home port of Göteborg, contained in the discharge rolls of *Göteborgs Sjömanshus*, a major mile stone has been reached. It is planned to continue the registration by first of all inventorying and excerpting all of the muster rolls of *Göteborgs Sjömanshus* for the time period 1812-1939, in which the seaman signed on with his hiring hall. In addition a registration will be conducted of the reports of discharge submitted by other hiring halls as well as the various Swedish consulates and consulates general abroad from 1871 to 1961. By doing this it will be possible to finally gather together all of the Göteborg sailors who originally signed on at the *Göteborgs Sjömanshus*.

In order to register all of the seamen who either died, were discharged in ports outside of Europe and those who absconded, for the purpose of mapping the extent of the emigration of Swedish sailors it will be necessary to examine all of the discharge rolls of the 42 various *sjömanshus* in Sweden, a herculean task, which will demand a great amount of intensive labor. Perhaps this can be done within the framework of *Göteborgs-Emigranten*, by having all of the registration lists microfilmed, so as to make the task easier.

How large was the extent of the sailors who were discharged outside of Europe? Can one note fluctuations in the material? In order to answer these questions I will let the material speak for itself by noting the number of discharged sailors, those who died and those who absconded annually as found in the discharge rolls of *Göteborgs Sjömanshus*:

Year	Number	Year	Number	Year	Number	Year	Number
1810	1	1861	99	1884	78	1906	87

Year	Number	Year	Number	Year	Number	Year	Number
1828-32	23	1862	37	1885	78	1907	48
1833	31	1863	69	1886	65	1908	56
1834-35	88	1864	58	1887	67	1909 1/2	50
1836-27	135	1865	108	1888	119	1910 1/2	36
1838-39	60	1866	15	1889	118	1911	36
1840-42	137	1867	22	1890	174	1912	27
1843-44	117	1868	42	1891	89	1913	40
1845	57	1869	39	1892	216	1914	36
1846-47	116	1870	41	1893	88	1915	111
1848	106	1871	43	1894	42	1916	211
1849	120	1872	48	1895	62	1917	140
1850	130	1873	32	1896	56	1918	783
1851	166	1874	41	1897	44	1919	452
1852	194	1875	46	1898	68		
1853	73	1876	58	1899	12		
1854	110	1877	115	1900	43		
1855	35	1878	59	1901	52		
1856	5	1879	64	1902	58		
1857	3	1880	114	1903	137		
1858	19	1881	104	1904	116		
1859	104	1882	116	1905	72		
1860	38	1883	80	1906	87		

As can be seen by referring to the table above the discharges and the abscondings stayed at a constant level during the 1830s, then increased markedly in 1848 and then hit bottom in 1856 and 1857. During the years prior to World War I the figures swing wildly with several high figures by the end of the 1880s and the beginning of the 1890s. The large figures for the World War I years are doubtless explained by the fact that home ports were difficult to reach and many ships were forced into quarantine abroad.

The total number of sailors outside of Europe, who left their vessels for one reason or another, either through voluntary discharge, abscondings or death during the time period of 1767-1919, thus amounts to 7,341. How many of these actually emigrated is an open question and is impossible to determine at this stage. Eventually it should be possible by means of additional research to trace these seamen, who signed on board other vessels in order to continue their seaborne existence and who finally returned to their native Sweden. The number who died is quite marginal. The discharges and the abscondings took place mostly in the United States, Australia and New Zealand. There were sporadic cases also in Canada and South America.



For *Uddevalla Sjömanshus* the journals show that during the years of 1865-1962 a total of 123 sailors were discharged, died or absconded outside of Europe. Comparable figures for Strömstad for 1865-1961 were 10, for Lysekil 1905-1961 32 and for Marstrand 1865-1961 8 respectively.

Once all of the discharge rolls for *Göteborgs Sjömanshus* have been registered for the remaining years of 1920-1961, all of the excerpted material will be fed into a data base so that the information can be made available either on diskettes or printed alphabetically by personal name and place of birth.

For additional references to Swedish hiring halls (*sjömanshus*) see the following:

- Per Clemensson, "Emigrantforska steg för steg" in *Göteborgs-Emigranten No. 2* (Göteborg 1990), pp. 68-90. For an English translation see Clemensson, "Emigration Research - Step by Step" in *SAG*, 1991, pp. 129-143.
- Lars Melchior, "En sjömansrulla berättar" in *Arkiv i väst 1* (Göteborg 1986), pp. 69-104.
- Kjell-Ove Persson, "Sjömanshusarkiv" in *Skånsk släktforskning* (Lund 1987), pp. 19-24.

-oOo-

**Editor's note:**

For references to articles dealing with Swedish seamen who jumped ship in U.S. ports see the following:

- Nils William Olsson, "Naturalized Scandinavian Seamen in Boston 1815-1840" in *SAG*, 1981, pp. 125-133.
- Nils William Olsson, "Swedish Seamen who Deserted in U.S. Ports 1841-1858" in *SAG*, 1983, pp. 141-157.
- Nils William Olsson, "Gävle Seamen Who Deserted in U.S. Ports 1871-1891" in *SAG*, 1990, pp. 73-83.

# Father Unknown - What to Do?

Elisabeth Thorsell\*

A not uncommon problem in working backwards in one's family pedigree is to discover that a child is born to an unwed mother, and one wonders then if it is possible to find the missing father.

This is a problem for which it is impossible to lay down general rules or solutions, but perhaps a few experiences in my research can give hints as to possible ways of solving the mystery.

In olden days when there was a strong social consciousness and an ecclesiastical control the problem with illegitimate children was not as prevalent as it became in the 19th century, as documented by the parish registers. Unfortunately we do not know too much about this problem before 1871 but in that year a publication appeared in Sweden titled *Historisk statistik för Sverige* (Historical Statistics for Sweden), which according to the year of publication (1871) gave the number of unwed mothers as 10% of all women giving birth. Thus it is probable that every genealogist sooner or later will find the word illegitimate (*oäkta*) in the birth registers in some generation.

If one is lucky one may not have to hunt for the child's father very long as in the case of the following child - "Anders Petter, born 28 Jan. 1846, the son of Inga Carin Persdotter, servant (*piga*) from Humlebäcken on the estate of Eksjöhult in Ulrika Parish (Ög.). It was legally determined that the child's father was Anders Fredrik Nilsson, a servant (*dräng*) in Kärn."

If the parish records are not that helpful one will have to attempt other avenues. The first thing to determine is to see if the child as it grows to adulthood uses the same patronymic (a father's name like Larsson) as his mother or maternal

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grandfather. If this is not the case, but carries the name Jonsdotter, the mother is named Larsdotter and the grandfather Svensson, one may suspect that someone named Jon or Jonas was the child's father, and then see if the mother had been a maid servant (*piga*) in the same household as a person named Jon of the approximately the same age. If one finds a Jon who seems to fit the case one may follow him in the parish records in order to see if the clergyman has added a note which may solve the mystery.

Gustaf Pettersson, a servant (*dräng*) in Malma, Västra Ryd Parish (Ög.) wished to move from his parish to Norra Vi, another parish in Östergötland, in 1858. The clergyman noted in the household examination roll that "Anna Lotta Andersdotter in Malma expressly forbids that Gustaf Pettersson be given a certificate of freedom to marry." This Anna Lotta was found on the following page to have given birth 20 Sept. 1858 to an illegitimate son named Johan Alfred, and she seems to have had reasons for naming Gustaf Pettersson as the father of the child and therefore wished to block him from having the certificate, since he was not free to marry, according to her statement. In this specific case the man stated that he was not the father of the child and in 1861 swore an oath that such was the case. The notation in the household examination followed him, nevertheless, until he departed for America in 1866.

If one finds a plausible candidate as the father but have found nothing in the parish records to prove this point, one should follow his career until he dies. A notation may show up much later, for example the child may have been domiciled with the supposed father. It has even occurred that the child finally is mentioned in the estate inventory of the deceased.

The secretary in the Department of the Army (*Krigskollegium*), Fredrik Wilhelm Westée, died in Stockholm 27 Dec. 1882. His estate inventory (*bouppteckning*) was probated 22 Feb. 1883 and according to this document he died without leaving any known heirs. But in examining the volume of estate inventories more closely one found, after the document itself, a will drawn up by Fredrik Wilhelm, dated 1876, which specified that his estate should be divided in two equal parts, one of these to go to his son, Ludvig Wilhelm Alfons Westée, a manufacturer in North America and the other to his daughter Edla Lovisa Adelaide, married to a Gustavi.

This proved that Ludvig Wilhelm Alfons really was the son of Fredrik Wilhelm, which his descendants had claimed right along, but the birth place is still unknown. The sister, Edla Lovisa Adelaide, was married to a battalion adjutant named Gustaf Wilhelm Gustavi, who later lived in Rappestad Parish (Ög.). The

parish records of Rappestad state that Edla was born in Jacob-Johannes Parish in Stockholm in 1840, but she is not to be found in the birth register. In a special volume for the births of illegitimate children there is a note, however, which has been pasted in, dated 1853, in which Fredrik Wilhelm admits that he and his then deceased betrothed, Lovisa Ulrica Nyman, were Edla's parents.

The fact that Edla is not listed as born in Jacob Parish may be due to the fact that she was born in one of the city's birthing centers and that the parents used their prerogative of being registered as "unknown."

The Swedish King Gustaf III was often confronted with cases having to do with mothers, who had taken the life of an infant, and whether he should have them executed or pardoned. He finally became quite concerned by the number of infants killed, and issued a manifesto known as "child murder manifesto" (*barnmordsplakatet*), signed into law 17 Oct. 1778. This order said among other things that "a woman who wished to give birth at an unspecified location, could do so without being molested and without being queried as to her name or other personal details. This functioned quite well in the cities, where one often sees the statement "unknown parents" (*okända föräldrar*) in the birth registers, but scarcely in rural areas, where people usually knew quite a bit about their neighbors.

In the cities, however, despite the notation concerning unknown parents sometimes the mother's age is given as well as an address. If one checks the latter for the time period in question one will often find the residence of a midwife, who took care of the wayward girls, a term used even into modern times. In such cases it is almost hopeless to continue the search.

It is somewhat different if the child was born at a birthing center (*barnbördshus*) or if the child had been admitted to an orphanage soon after its birth. One should then search the journals and registers, since sometimes the mother deposited with the institution a sealed envelope which might contain the key to the solving of the puzzle by naming the parents of the child.

Let us now return to the illegitimate child in rural Sweden. One should not forget that despite everything else it was considered a crime up until the middle of the 1850s for persons to indulge in pre-marital intercourse or adultery. There were specified punishments to be meted out according to Sweden's Legal Code of 1734 which stated that the first time these crimes were perpetrated the man was to pay a fine of ten daler and the woman five, or for the man 14 days' prison or workhouse and for the woman half that amount. The nature of these crimes was such that it was difficult to prove unless it resulted in the birth of a child.

Of the fines collected half was to go to the parish treasury, and it may pay to search the parish accounts or those of the special account set up for the poor, shortly after the birth of the child to see if the mother paid a fine to the church. If one is fortunate, one might find that a man paid the double amount at about the same time, pretty good evidence for looking a little closer as to who the father might be.

If the mother paid her fine to the parish and to the the poor, the next step is to look at the court records of the hundred (*härad*). Here the simplest way is to look at the fines paid (*saköreslängd*), which is generally found bound at the end of the court records themselves at each assizes. In this register one can search for those who were fined, often with a reference to the court case itself, so that one may go directly to the court record, without having to leaf through the entire large volume.

Most of the time it was the county sheriff (*länsman*) who brought charges against the man and the woman, but occasionally it was also the father of the woman who charged his daughter or the woman who brought suit against the child's father for child support.

On 6 Jan. 1836 Maria Larsdotter, a servant (*piga*) in Löt Parish on the island of Öland paid a fine of 32 shillings (*skilling*) to her parish church for having indulged in fornication (*lönskaläge*). On 6 Nov. 1835 she had given birth to her daughter Stina Cajsa, and she now was to be brought into the church after the purification process and she wished to have her debt to the church paid before this event. Stina Cajsa, the daughter, used the patronymic Olsdotter as an adult, the mother was Maria Larsdotter and the maternal grandfather's name was Lars Andersson, so that the child's patronymic should give us a clue as to who the father was.

In the court records for the northern district of Öland (*Ölands Norra Mot*) for the assizes held during the winter term of 1836 this case came up for consideration under § 285. A. Thiman, the sheriff, had sued Olof Johnson, a farmer in Stora Hagelunda in Alböke Parish (Kalm.) and Maria Larsdotter, a servant in Lundby, Löt Parish "to assume responsibility for having indulged in fornication, urging the court to sentence Olof Johnson, the defendant, to pay child support."

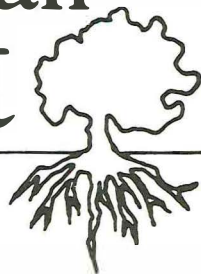
Both parties were present and admitted their guilt. Maria demanded that Olof should pay her annually one barrel of rye as well as 100 daler for the child's subsistence, which he refused to do.

The court then announced its decision that Olof should be fined three daler and 16 skilling and be incarcerated for 14 days in the county jail and in addition pay one daler and 16 skilling to the parish church in Löt. In addition he was to pay



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Maria annually a barrel of good rye and six daler and 32 skilling, should he refuse, the court would order the foreclosure of his farm. Maria was to pay 32 skilling to Löt church which she already had done.

In this case the man admitted his guilt, but there are many cases where the man denied the charge and despite the fact that there had been witnesses who had seen the couple in the same bed, continued to deny the charge, finally swearing an oath to free himself. In such cases the woman had to accept that there was no official father for her child, which could pose quite a problem.

Among other sources that should be tried, should they exist in the parish examined, are the series known as the *G Series*, consisting of registers of pardons issued for offenders as well as journals of punishment meted out to those guilty, where persons are named who were absolved by the clergyman either secretly or openly before a public. This was one of the methods used by the church to uphold public morality as well as punish the guilty.

In older times, when an illegitimate child was an unusual occurrence, one may find the event reported to the Diocesan Chapter (*Domkapitlet*), where such cases can be found in the records submitted by each parish.

As is usual when it comes to difficult problems in genealogical research one must try all possible avenues in order to solve the problem. I have here sought to discuss some of the most important ones. My chief advice is to leave no path untried until success has been reached.

There is very little literature on the subject of finding the unknown father, whereas the illegitimate child and its mother have been studied in many works. Among these I should mention Jonas Frykman's *Horan i bondesamhället* (The Whore in Rural Society) (1977), which gives too dark a picture of the unwed mother and her prospects for the future. Svante and Sten W. Jakobsson have given in *Orons och förtvivlans gerningar* (The Results of Anxiety and Despair) (1987) a shocking picture of the anxiety the unwed mother experiences in the face of her pregnancy and birth of the child. This study touches on the situation in Stockholm. Beata Losman in *Kvinnor, män och barn på 1800-talets svenska landsbygd* (Women, Men and Children in Rural Sweden During the 19th Century) (1986) gives a good picture of the role of the family in Värmland. Anne-Sofie Ohlander in her book *Kärlek, död och frihet* (Love, Death and Freedom) (1986) illustrates other aspects of the life of women in older times. All of these books have excellent references to literature in the field which can furnish additional tips for future research. Unfortunately none of these books referred to above are available in an English translation.



# Genealogical Queries

Genealogical queries from subscribers to *Swedish American Genealogist* will be listed here free of charge on a "space available" basis. The editor reserves the right to edit these queries to conform to a general format. The enquirer is responsible for the contents of the query.

## **Nilsson, Petersson, Nilsson, Ekstrand**

I need information on Peter Nilsson and his wife Christine Petersson, who arr. in Illinois sometime during the time frame of 1840-1860. They had a dau. Christina Catharina Nilsson (1845-1932), who m. Elias Andersson Ekstrand. The Ekstrand surname was taken upon arrival in the U.S. 1859.

Michael Lee Ekstrand  
25 Rennie Avenue  
San Jose, CA 95127

**815**

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## **Johannesdotter**

I am trying to locate possible descendants of Vilhelmina Johannesdotter, b. in Svanskog Parish (Värm.) 14 May 1867. She emigr. from Ingridur in Bro Parish (Värm.) 24 July 1893, departing from Göteborg aboard the *Romeo*, bound for Hull and then on to the U.S. Her contract number was 57599. The only sign of life after her arrival in America was an undated photograph taken by a photographer named C. F. Ostberg at 44 Lewis Street, Bridgeport, CT. Possibly her sister, Christina Ulrika Johannesdotter, b. in Svanskog 24 March 1862, may also have come to America after leaving Gillberga Parish (Värm.) 20 Oct. 1892 for Norway.

Berndt Pettersson  
Pilgatan 10  
661 00 Säfte, SWEDEN

**816**

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## **Forsman, Plantare**

Looking for information on Jonas Wilhelm Forsman or Plantare, b. in Umeå, Sweden 8 Feb. 1848, who departed from Sweden in July 1869 as a sailor in

the merchant marine. He d. in Philadelphia 6 July 1880. Did he have a family?

Henrik Lundström  
Per Jansvägen 9  
903 35 Umeå, SWEDEN

817

## Olsson

I am seeking information on my great grandparents: William Lahl and Luella Young(er) (Reinhardt) Olsson, who emigr. to Buffalo, TX in the early 1870s from Stockholm, Sweden. They had three children - Mary, b. 1874; George Alva, b. 1877 and Willie Young(er) b. 1880. We have always been told that my great grandfather William owned a flour mill or sawmill in Stockholm.

Mrs. Dorris Olsson McKinney  
P.O. Box 249  
Tomé, NM 87060

818

## Larsson

I am seeking information on possible descendants of the following:  
Andreas Larsson, b. probably in Dalsland 1812; d. 1902. He was m. to Christina Andersdotter, who d. in 1888. Of their seven children, Johannes Larsson, b. 22 Feb. 1861, left for America 1883. He m. Sarah Berg from Norway. He ran a gas station near Seattle, WA and had the following children - Leonard, John, Elmer, Selma, Tekla Van Dyke and Seide.

Doris Holmfjord  
Sundsgatan 22 B  
462 33 Vänersborg, SWEDEN

819

## Blom, Blum

My paternal grandmother, Hulda Blom, had two brothers who emigr. to America:

1). Johan (John) Leonard Blom, b. in Yllestad Parish (Skar.) 27 April 1865; emigr. to Galveston, TX, where he worked as a stevedore. In 1906 he was m. to Marie, with whom he had three children - John L. Blom, deceased; Ellen Johnson, who lived in San Antonio, TX 1967 and William Charles Blum, deceased, but had a s. William Gammon Blum, who in 1967 was res. in California.

2). Carl (Charles) Blom, b. in Yllestad 6 Feb. 1868; m. to Ida. They had five dau., who after the death of the father in 1906, were taken care of at the Galveston Orphans' Home. Their names were Charlotte, Ellen, Emma, Martha and Rebecca. Whatever happened to these girls? Did they marry and have families? Who can help?

Conny Graesén  
Stora Visätter  
585 97 Linköping, SWEDEN

820

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## Jonsson

I am looking for descendants of a relative in the U.S. who left Sweden in 1901. His name was Erik Gustaf Albinus Jonsson, b. 17 Oct. 1883. He emigr. from Katarina Parish in Stockholm, was m. and was alive, at least until 1964.

Christer Allgulander, M.D.  
Idunvägen 19  
133 33 Saltsjöbaden, SWEDEN

821

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## Björklund

My paternal aunt, Anna Westdahl, who had emigr. to America 1914 and who later returned to Sweden, spoke of a peculiar coincidence during her sojourn in the New York area. One day she brought a furcoat into a store in New York City for repairs. Deem her surprise when she found that the gentleman in the store was named Sven Björklund and that he was a cousin of Anna Westdahl's mother, my grandmother. Unfortunatley neither my aunt nor I followed up this lead but in an address book which my aunt had possessed I found two addresses for a Sven Björklund - Hunterdon County, Changewater, NJ 07831 and 320 Griggs Avenue, Teaneck, NJ 07666. It seems that Sven Björklund's father must have been Alexander Björklund, a journeyman furrier, who left Kristianstad for Stockholm in 1871, but has not been found in any of the parish records of that city.

I'd be interested in knowing if any SAG reader can help me locate possible descendants of Sven Björklund.

Gunnar E. Westdahl  
Åkaregatan 5 B  
281 38 Hässleholm, SWEDEN

822

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**Johannesson, Lindahl**

My grandfather, August Johan Johannesson was b. in Boda, Lammhult Parish (Kron.) 10 Oct. 1852, s. Johannes Andersson and Ulla Johansson. With his wife Emma Marie Andersson, b. 6 Aug. 1857 and dau. Agnes Eugenia Mathilda, b. 21 Jan. 1880, they emigr. to America in 1881. Somewhere along the way they changed their surname to Lindahl, but it is not certain if this was done in Sweden or after arriving in the U.S.

I would like to find their names on a passenger list and establish the exact dates and places of their departure and arrival, name of the ship, the ship's agent, etc. We believe that they were enroute a matter of 17 1/2 days.

Elder M. Lindahl  
328 East Woodland Road  
Lake Bluff, IL 60044

**823****Kindstrand**

I am attempting to locate relatives in America. I know that many of my kinfolk on my mother's side of the family left Sweden ca. 1850 from the parishes of Värna and Kisa in Östergötland. The name was Kindstrand. I have quite a bit of material on the family in Sweden but would love to hear from relatives in the U.S.

Karin Nilsson  
Skaragatan 45  
252 63 Helsingborg, SWEDEN

**824****Westman**

Anna Christina Westman is said to have been b. in Boden, Sweden 4 June 1862. She arr. in the U.S. in 1882 and m. Peter Olson from Bosarp Parish (Malm.) in 1885 in Wahoo, NE, where she spent the remainder of her life. Her marriage certificate lists her parents as Charles J. Westman and Britta Sjölin.

Nothing more is known of her and the parish records of Norrbotten fail to mention her, although there were Westmans who were b. in the area around Boden at that time. Can anyone help me identify my grandmother?

Lyman F. Scheel  
8325 Calle del Prado  
Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730-1060

**825**

## Nilsson

Carl Emil Frithiof Nilsson was b. in Sweden 27 Feb. 1860 and departed from Göteborg on 3 April 1880 destined for New York. His brother, Gustaf Reinhold Nilsson, b. 6 June 1865, also in Sweden, departed from Göteborg 1 May 1891 destined for Chicago.

The mother of these two brothers was Johanna Nilsdotter, b. in Sweden 20 Sept. 1829, who accompanied her s. Gustaf Reinhold to Chicago in 1891.

I would appreciate any help in tracing these people or leads in locating their whereabouts in the U.S

R.D. Nelson  
5408 South Brandon  
Seattle, WA 98118-2525

826

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## Nyman

I have been at a standstill over my second great grandmother, Ella Mariah Nyman, who arr. in America from Sweden in or about 1857. I find her, aged 11, listed with other Nyman families in the 1860 Census of Geneseo, Henry County, IL. However, I have no information on her parents nor place of birth. Any help on Ella or other Nyman families would be most appreciated.

Alicia Roundy Houston  
213 Mc Masters Drive  
Monroeville, PA 15146

827

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## Nelson

Seeking information on Ambrus Nilsson (Ambrose Nelson), who came to the Baltimore - Annapolis, MD area as an indentured servant, b. ca. 1645-1650. He was naturalized by the Maryland Legislature in 1712 with Peter Overard and Joseph Crisman. He d. in 1728. Will exchange information.

D.C.Nelson  
P.O.Box 12080  
Dallas, TX 75225

828

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# Book Reviews

**The Swedish Experience in Canada: An Annotated Bibliography** by Elinor Berglund Barr. Proceedings from the The Swedish Emigrant Institute, 4. Published by The Swedish Emigrant Institute, Växjö, Sweden 1991. ISSN 0283-4465; ISBN 0-9691717-3-0. 79 pp., 8.25 x 11.5 in. Softcover. North American Distributor: Singing Shield Productions, 104 Ray Boulevard, Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada P7B 4C4. Price: Canada \$CAD 12.50 plus postage and handling \$2.00; U.S. \$US 11.50 plus postage and handling \$3.00.

In the world of sports, we are not surprised when the accomplishments of average athletes are dominated by those of superstars. Similarly, in the ivory towers of academia, the contributions of most scholars seem insignificant by comparison with those of Nobel Laureates. And in the North American geopolitical arena, events occurring within Canada (whether they be political, cultural or otherwise) tend to be overshadowed by similar events taking place within its larger neighbor to the south - the United States.

Writing in the preface to **The Swedish Experience in Canada**, Ulf Beijbom argues that this overshadowing phenomenon also applies to Canadian migration history, especially as it pertains to Swedes. He notes that "the Swedish immigrant experience in Canada is a subject which has been largely neglected by migration researchers" and further states that "the trend to emigrate to the United States...has completely overshadowed the Canadian scene." If this is true, then Barr's assertion that "Canadian scholarship stands in a disadvantaged position" seems to be a fair and accurate description of the context out of which this book emerges.

The book itself consists of 79 pages whose overall appearance is reminiscent of a typewritten manuscript. The pages are bound in a soft cover, and it is worth noting that the binding on my copy broke after very limited use. **The Swedish Experience in Canada** is organized into major sections. The first section is a well written and very readable 19 page essay that describes the current state of Canadian scholarship vis-a-vis the Swedish experience in Canada. This is followed by 55 pages containing annotated bibliographies on 162 "works" ranging in format from books to journal articles and in content from scholarly to folksy. The book concludes with two alphabetical lists, one with the 29 periodicals and the other with the 89 books included in the annotated bibliography.

Although I concur with Beijbom's assessment that this annotated bibliography "reflects the Swedish presence in most avenues of human life in Canada," I would be remiss if I did not stress both the paucity and the unevenness of the Canadian source material included by the author. Yet this very fact, more than anything else, tends

to corroborate Barr's contention that there is a pressing need for Canadian scholarship relative to the Swedish experience. To that end, the author suggests that her "annotated bibliography offers both a reference point for assessing the current state of Swedish studies in Canada and an incentive to redress the situation." In fact, Barr justifies the book's "broad sampling of publications, authors and genres...interspersed among scholarly works" on the grounds that she intended **The Swedish Experience in Canada** to be a "seminal source" for anyone interested in things both Swedish and Canadian. For those of you with such interests, this book is a must.

James E. Erickson, Edina,MN.

-oOo-

**Norwegian Local History: A Bibliography of Material in the Collections of the Memorial Library, University of Wisconsin-Madison** by Dennis Auburn Hill. Published by McFarland & Company, Inc., Publishers, Box 611, Jefferson, North Carolina, 1989. xiii + 125 pp. Name Index. Cloth. Out of print.

The University of Wisconsin Memorial Library has long been recognized as having attained the largest collection of Norwegian local history in North America. This collection of over 2,000 volumes includes the popular *bygdebøker* - genealogical farm histories from individual communities. In addition to the *bygdebøker* are also found city directories, general community histories as well as local historical society publications.

In 1989 Dennis Auburn Hill, a Fulbright scholar, published through McFarland & Company a comprehensive bibliography of this unique collection. This bibliography is arranged by place name with some cross references. The individual entries include title, author, sponsoring organization, place of publication, date, number of pages or volumes, illustrations, series title and uniquely, the Memorial Library's call number. This work also includes a list of selected reference works and an index to authors, editors and illustrators.

Now that this guide has been available to historians and genealogists for nearly three years, we are able to report on both the strengths and weaknesses. A knowledge of Norwegian geography is especially important in using this reference. Although the bibliography is arranged by place name, rarely is the Norwegian county name included, except in instances where a name is found spelled the same in two or more communities and books are available from both places. Many communities with a local history in this collection also have a common name with other communities in Norway. In these instances it is impossible to readily determine which community the reference applies to.

As in any bibliography, we immediately recognize the books that for one reason or another were inadvertently missing from the publication. These primarily included older volumes in Memorial Library's cutter classification as well as volumes added in the late 1980s.

Some references list only one or two volumes in the set, when actually more volumes can be found on the shelves. Books that have been removed from the general collection, microfilmed and then discarded are still included, using the general library call number rather than the new microfiche call number.

Sadly, this bibliography is already out of print, but may be found in many reference collections. The Vesterheim Genealogical Center, 425 West Main Street, Madison, WI 53703 had the foresight to purchase several copies of this bibliography. These remaining copies may still be purchased from Vesterheim Genealogical Center for \$25.00 plus shipping costs.

Blaine Hedberg, Vesterheim Genealogical Center  
Madison, WI.

-oOo-

## Rolf H. Erickson 1940-1992

This journal and its staff announce with deep regret the death of Rolf H. Erickson 18 Nov. 1992. Mr. Erickson was an early subscriber of *SAG*, contributed to it on many occasions and served as an articulate adviser, constructive critic and on many occasions as the well-spring of inspiration when the Editor sought him out for a solution of some knotty problem.

Rolf Erickson was a consummate historian, avid genealogist and a true Scandinavianist in the old 19th Century connotation of that term. Though born of Norwegian-American parents, he was equally at home with Americans of Danish, Finnish, Icelandic and Swedish extraction. For him there existed no borders between the Scandinavians, illustrated for instance by the fact that he served on the Board of Directors of the Swedish-American Historical Society of Chicago and was one of its most aggressive members, always looking for ways and means to expand the horizons of the society. His deep knowledge of the Scandinavian-American community in Chicago is evidenced by his two-part portrayal, "The Chicago Exhibition of Scandinavian-American Artists in 1929" in *SAG*, March, 1989, pp. 60-77 and June, pp. 129-148. His legendary knowledge of the Scandinavians in Chicago was also of inestimable value when he and the Editor published a directory of "Scandinavian-American Physicians in Chicago 1887-1912" published in *SAG*, March, 1986, pp. 1-12.

Rolf was the genial chief of the Circulation Department of Northwestern University Library in Evanston, IL, where he served with distinction for more than 22 years. In this position he came in contact with thousands of students as well as faculty members, who will always remember his gracious smile, his rollicking laughter and his energy which knew no bounds when it came to ferreting out hard-to-locate materials. *Ave atque vale.*

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B= Stockholm ( <i>län</i> )	H= Kalmar	O= Göteborg and	U= Västmanland
C= Uppsala	I= Gotland	Bohus	W= Kopparberg
D= Södermanland	K= Blekinge	P= Älvsborg	X= Gävleborg
E= Östergötland	L= Kristianstad	R= Skaraborg	Y= Västernorrland
F= Jönköping	M= Malmöhus	S= Värmland	Z= Jämtland
	AC= Västerbotten	BD= Norrbotten	

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